

DESCRIPTION OF THE MALE OF *CRIORRHINA SOROR* PARAMONOV (DIPTERA: SYRPHIDAE)

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Abstract

The male of *Criorrhina soror* Paramonov is described and figured, habitat recorded, and distribution extended.

Introduction

Eight species of *Criorrhina* Meigen are recorded from Australia, from southern Queensland to South Australia and Tasmania. As specimens are uncommon in collections, the opportunity is taken to describe the male of *C. soror* Paramonov, only known from the female holotype collected at Jerrongabilly (=Yarrongabilly?) New South Wales. Paramonov (1955) mentions that this specimen may have been a female *C. transparens* Paramonov, of which only males were known. As with other species of *Criorrhina* the male of *C. soror* shows some variation in external characters, but considerable resemblance in form of body and of wing patterning associate it with the female.

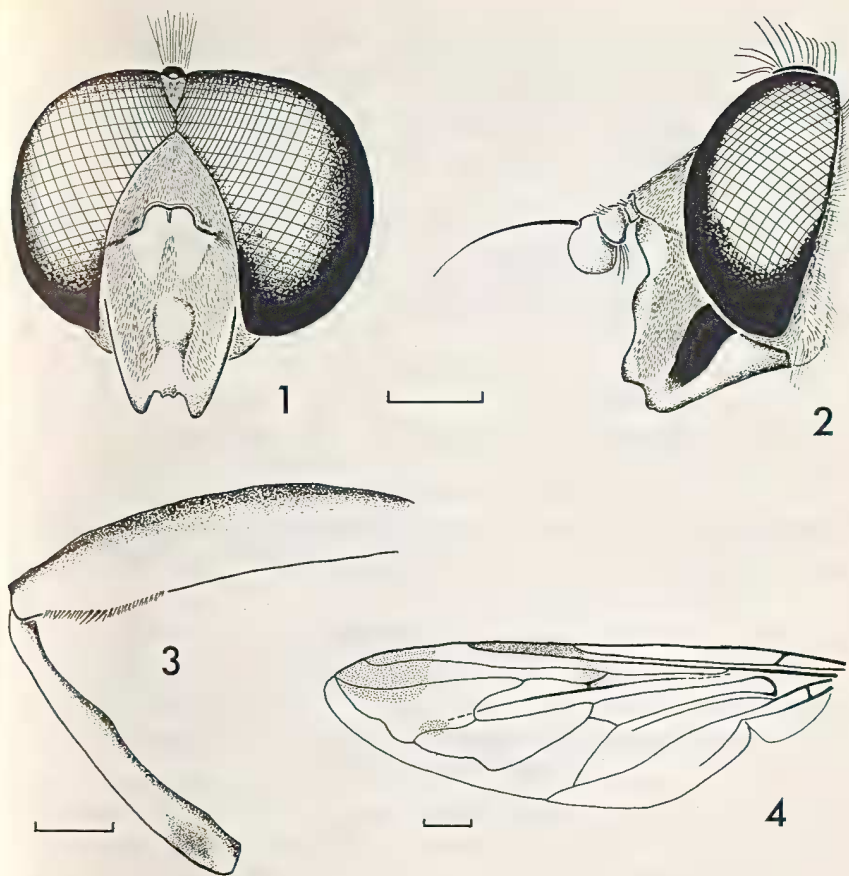
Australian species of *Criorrhina* should possibly be removed from the genus, as they possess strong hairs, sometimes bristle-like ventrally on the hind femur; males have the eyes touching for a short distance; and the abdomen is most only moderately pubescent. Verrall (1901: 576) records that British species have the hind femur "... without any processes or even bristles beneath ... Eyes ... not touching though approximated in the male ... Abdomen ... always densely pubescent ...". Not having examined foreign material of the genus, the value of these characters for generic separation cannot be ascertained.

Criorrhina soror Paramonov

Description of male

Head (Figs 1, 2). Ocellar triangle following profile of eye, only slightly projected; eyes touching along a line about as long as ocellar triangle; a small fulvous micropubescent triangle anterior to ocellar triangle, and sub-equal; fronto-ocellar triangle golden micropubescent; fulvous hairs confined to ocellar triangle; tubercles present above epistoma; cheeks with a variable black line. Antennae orange; first and second segments shining, yellow haired; third segment with yellow micropubescent; arista black. Posterior eye margin with a narrow whitish micropubescent line.

Thorax. Mesonotum black with a longitudinal, submedial, fulvous line angled anteriorly to meet humeral callus; laterally with a rufous longitudinal line; the submedial and lateral lines golden micropubescent anteriorly to suture covered with short, dense suberect, fulvous hairs, slightly longer on scutellum; scutellum rufous. Lateral slopes of thorax black, pleurotergite and pteropleuron brownish, pteropleuron with a black sub-ventral spot; anepisternite golden micropubescent on posterior half; sternopleurite in upper posterior corner with a golden micropubescent spot, below this spot and posterior margin with a white



FIGS 1 - 4 (scales represent 1 mm). *Criorrhina soror* Paramonov ♂: (1) head anteriorly; (2) head laterally; (3) hind femur and tibia (pollinose hair omitted); (4) wing.

micropubescent line; metanotum black.

Legs (Fig. 3). Coxae black, grey pollinose; femora, tibiae and tarsi orange-yellow, yellow pollinose; hind femur ventrally with 2 subapical rows of short, stout black hairs, central elements bristle-like; hind tibia with an indistinct subapical, anterodorsal spot.

Wing (Fig. 4). Similar to female, the apical black spot being indistinct.

Abdomen. Tergite 1 orange-yellow, concealed dorsally by scutellum; tergites 2 and 3 with a black dorsal, longitudinal line abruptly widening about middle of tergite to cover dorsal surface on posterior margin, remainder of each tergite transparent yellow; tergite 4 black, with indistinct orange-brown lateral and posterior margins; tergite 5 dark orange-brown.

Dimensions. Body length, excluding antennae, 15.0 - 15.2 mm; length of thorax, 5.6 mm; length of wing, 11.8 mm.

Material examined. NEW SOUTH WALES: 14 km E of Robertson, 23 Nov 1973; 640 m, on *Leptospermum* blossom. AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY: Lee's Creek, Brindabella Range, 2 Jan 1975; both specimens in author's collection.

Habitat. The Brindabella specimen was taken about 11.00 am (Eastern Standard Time), walking amongst the stems of ferns at the edge of a creek. It is doubtful that the specimen was freshly emerged as it remained in good condition when pinned and dried. The Robertson specimen was feeding on *Leptospermum* blossom in mid afternoon.

Acknowledgement

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References

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BUTTERFLIES IN NORTH-WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES: NARRABRI AND BELLATA

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Abstract

Observations and collections of butterflies in the two north-western New South Wales localities of Narrabri and Bellata during the six month period July to December 1974 have been recorded.

Introduction

The township of Narrabri is situated 570 km NNW of Sydney, and Bellata lies another 48 km north of Narrabri. Both lie on the edge of the north-western plains, in an area very largely devoted to the growing of cereal crops and grazing. The area receives an average annual rainfall of 63 cm. Temperatures range broadly from - 4° to 45°C.

The observations for Narrabri were made primarily in the township itself more or less continuously during the six month period, July to December 1974. Those for Bellata resulted from collections made intermittently during the same period on a ridge bordering the village.